

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the courtesies extended during her recent conversations with him concerning the action needed "to make the record straight".

The prior rejection of Claims 11-20 on reference Tawashi (US 5,648,101) appears to be improper.

Please re-examine claims 11-20 and consider new claims 21-30 as follows:

### The Claims

1-10. Cancelled

11. (Previously presented) A method of treating an iron deficiency comprising the steps of :
  - (a) providing a drug reservoir layer containing an hematinic substance; and
  - (b) securing said drug reservoir layer to a skin surface.
12. (Previously presented) The method as defined in claim 11, further including the step of applying a rate-controlling membrane to said reservoir layer.
13. (Previously presented) The method as defined in claim 11, further including the step of applying a contact adhesive to said rate-controlling membrane.
14. (Previously presented) The method as defined in claim 11, further including the step of selecting said hematinic substance from the class consisting of ferrous sulfate, ferrous lactate, ferrous iodide, ferrous gluconate, ferrous fumarate, ferrous citrate, ferrous carbonate saccharated, ferrous carbonate mass, ferronascin, ferroglycine sulfate, and ferrocholate.
15. (Previously presented) The method as defined in claim 11, further including the step of including a protective peel strip on said contact adhesive.
16. (Previously presented) The method as defined in claim 11, further including the step of including a backing layer upon said drug reservoir layer.

17. (Previously presented) The method as defined in claim 11, further including the step of including a hematinic substance in said contact adhesive.
18. (Previously presented) The method as defined in claim 11, further including the step of providing said backing layer as aluminized polyester film.
19. (Previously presented) The method as defined in claim 11, further including the step of providing said drug reservoir with mineral oil and polyisobutylene.
20. (Previously presented) The method of manufacturing a transdermal patch comprising the steps of;
- (a) providing a drug reservoir layer containing an hematinic substance; and
  - (b) applying said layer to a rate-controlling membrane.

Add the following claims:

21. (New) A transdermal patch for the treatment of iron deficiency comprising:  
a drug reservoir layer;  
a rate-controlling membrane secured to said reservoir layer; and  
a contact adhesive secured to said rate-controlling membrane, wherein said reservoir contains an hematinic substance.
22. (New) The transdermal patch as defined in claim 21, wherein said hematinic substance is selected from the class consisting of ferrous sulfate, ferrous lactate, ferrous iodide, ferrous gluconate, ferrous fumarate, ferrous citrate, ferrous carbonate saccharated, ferrous carbonate mass, ferronascin, ferroglycine sulfate, and ferrocholate.
23. (New) The transdermal patch as defined in claim 21, further including a protective peel strip on said contact adhesive.
24. (New) The transdermal patch as defined in claim 21, further including a backing layer upon said drug reservoir layer.

25. (New) The transdermal patch as defined in claim 21, further including a hematinic substance in said contact adhesive.
26. (New) The transdermal patch as defined in claim 21, wherein said backing layer is aluminized polyester film.
27. (New) The transdermal patch as defined in claim 21, wherein said drug reservoir includes mineral oil and polyisobutylene.
28. (New) The transdermal patch as defined in claim 21, wherein said contact adhesive includes mineral oil and polyisobutylene.
29. (New) The transdermal patch as defined in claim 21, wherein said protective peel strip is of siliconized polyester.
30. (New) The transdermal patch as defined in claim 21, wherein said patch is a film with a plurality of layers and ranges in thickness from .1 mm to .3 mm.